

Form **990-EZ****Short Form**
Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No 1545-1150

2018Open to Public
InspectionDepartment of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990EZ for instructions and the latest information.**A** For the 2018 calendar year, or tax year beginning **DEC 17, 2018** and ending **JUN 30, 2019****B** Check if applicable

Address change

☒ **X** Name change☒ **X** Initial return
Final return/
terminated

Amended return

Application pending

C Name of organization**SAM ADVOCACY FUND**

Number and street (or P.O. box, if mail is not delivered to street address)

800 3RD AVENUE, FLOOR 6

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code

NEW YORK, NY 10022

Room/suite

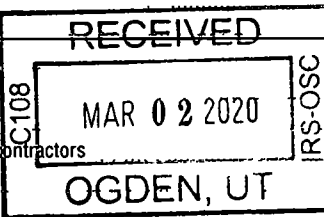
04**D** Employer identification number**83-2913327****E** Telephone number**(212) 488-1210****F** Group Exemption

Number ▶

H Check ☐ if the organization is
not required to attach Schedule B
(Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).**G** Accounting Method: ☒ **X** Cash Accrual Other (specify) ▶**I** Website: ▶ **N/A****J** Tax-exempt status (check only one) — 501(c)(3) ☒ **X** 501(c) (**4**) (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527**K** Form of organization: ☒ **X** Corporation Trust Association Other**L** Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II,
column (B)) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ ▶ \$ **100,100.****Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances** (see the instructions for Part I)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	100,100.
2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	
3	Membership dues and assessments	3	
4	Investment income	4	
5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	
b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	
c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	
6	Gaming and fundraising events:		
a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	
b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	
c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	
b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b	
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	
9	Total revenue. Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	100,100.
10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	
11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	
12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	
13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	
14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	
15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	
16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	
17	Total expenses. Add lines 10 through 16	17	0.
18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	100,100.
19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	0.
20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	0.
21	Net assets or fund balances at end of year. Combine lines 18 through 20	21	100,100.



For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

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Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.) Check if the organization used Sch. O to respond to any question in this Part V ☒

	Yes	No
33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O		X
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)	X	
35a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?		X
b If "Yes" to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	N/A	
c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		X
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N		X
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions	37a	0.
b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	X
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?	38a	X
b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b	N/A
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:	39a	N/A
a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39b	N/A
b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities		
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911 <u>N/A</u> ; section 4912 <u>N/A</u> ; section 4955 <u>N/A</u>		
b Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	X
c Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958		0.
d Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization		0.
e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T	40e	X
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed	NONE	
42a The organization's books are in care of	WILLIAM MCGOVERN Telephone no. (212) 488-1210	
Located at	800 3RD AVENUE, FLOOR 6, NEW YORK, NY ZIP + 4 10022	
b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?	42b	X
If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____		
See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).		
c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the United States?	42c	X
If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: _____		
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year	43	N/A
44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44a	X
b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	X
c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	X
d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	
45a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45a	X
b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ. See instructions	45b	

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- 46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I

	Yes	No
46		X

Part VI Section 501(c)(3) Organizations Only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI ☐

- 47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Sch. C, Part II
- 48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E
- 49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?
- b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?

	Yes	No
47		
48		
49a		
49b		

- 50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees, and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
N/A				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 ▶

- 51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None." N/A

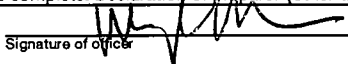
(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 ▶

- 52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note:** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A

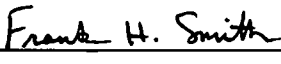
☐ Yes ☐ No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here Signature of officer  Date Feb 26, 2020

Sign Here WILLIAM MCGOVERN, CHAIR AND CEO
Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name FRANK H. SMITH	Preparer's signature 	Date 02/17/20	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN P00639053
Firm's name ▶ MARCUM, LLP			Firm's EIN ▶ 11-1986323	
Firm's address ▶ 1899 L STREET, NW, SUITE 850 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			Phone no. (202) 227-4000	

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions

☒ Yes ☐ No

Form 990-EZ (2018)

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

OMB No 1545-0047

2018

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

SAM ADVOCACY FUND

Employer identification number
83-2913327

**FORM 990-EZ, PART III, PRIMARY EXEMPT PURPOSE - TO PROMOTE AND ADVOCATE
FOR ELECTORAL REFORMS IN THE UNITED STATES THAT LEAD TO GREATER
TRANSPARENCY AND INCLUSION IN OUR DEMOCRACY.**

FORM 990-EZ, PART V, INFORMATION REGARDING PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACTS:

**THE ORGANIZATION DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, RECEIVE ANY FUNDS, DIRECTLY,
OR INDIRECTLY, TO PAY PREMIUMS ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.**

**THE ORGANIZATION, DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, PAY ANY PREMIUMS, DIRECTLY,
OR INDIRECTLY, ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.**

FORM 990-EZ, PART V, LINE 34:

**SAM ACTION FUND AMENDED ITS ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION TO REFLECT THE
ORGANIZATION'S NAME CHANGE. THE ORGANIZATION CHANGED ITS NAME FROM
UPGRADE AMERICA, INC. TO SAM ADVOCACY FUND.**